Task Force to study effect to FDI on retail market

†2457. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Task Force has been constituted to study the effect of Foreign Direct investment in retail market on the domestic retail market of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of persons in such Task Force and the inquiry related background of such persons; and

(c) the responsibility entrusted for consideration to such Task Force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Study on impact of organized retail in unorganized retail including small retailers and vendors has been entrusted to the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER). ICRIER has been asked *inter alia* to assess the impact to FDI in the retail sector with reference to its impact on small retailers and vendors in the unorganized sector, employment, consumers, farmers and manufacturers, prices and on overall economic growth.

Reserves and exports of iron ore

†2458. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE, AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how much reserves of iron ore and granite deposits are available in different parts of the country;

(b) the quantities of iron ore, granite and other useful minerals exported to other countries and the amounts of foreign exchange earned in such deal during the last two years; year-wise;

(c) whether the policy of exporting valuable raw materials to other countries and importing finished goods at higher prices would be prudent in the long term interests of our country; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.